

May 5, 2016

SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL: [iqc@cde.ca.gov](mailto:iqc@cde.ca.gov)

Lauryn Wild, Commission Chair  
Bill Honig, Commission Vice Chair  
Instructional Quality Commission  
1430 N Street, Suite #5111  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Recommendation to Approve the Draft History-Social Science Framework**

Dear Commission Chair Wild and Vice-Chair Honig:

As a coalition of organizations committed to ensuring that the History-Social Science (HSS) Framework complies with the Fair, Accurate, Inclusive, and Respectful Education Act (FAIR Education Act) concerning the inclusion of LGBT Americans, we are writing to ask you to approve the most recent draft of the HSS Framework, as amended by the History-Social Science Subject Matter Committee (HSS SMC) at its meeting on March 24, 2016, during your meeting on May 19-20, 2016.

Over the past two years, we have been working with the HSS SMC in support of changes that increase the representation of the diverse LGBT community, and we feel the process has been fair and thorough. We appreciate how responsive and thoughtful the HSS SMC has been to the considerations of many different communities.

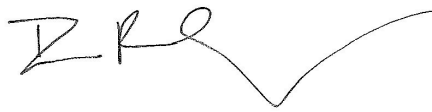
We are pleased that the revised Framework reflects and honors the legislative intent behind the FAIR Education Act with regard to including the roles and contributions of LGBT Americans in history and social science instruction. We applaud the work of the HSS SMC for including key LGBT historical figures, essential moments in the struggle for LGBT equality, and the evolution of LGBT communities and identities. We are pleased to see references to LGBT Americans and matters of LGBT equality in multiple grade levels throughout the elementary, middle, and high school grades. The revisions, which reflect the current scholarship on LGBT history, are historic and important contributions to the education of California's K-12 students. The revised Framework will provide essential and critical guidance to school districts and educators on what content to teach related to LGBT history.

We urge the IQC to approve the revised History-Social Science Framework, and send it to the State Board of Education for approval. Should you have any questions, please contact Judy Appel at [judy@ourfamily.org](mailto:judy@ourfamily.org).

Sincerely,



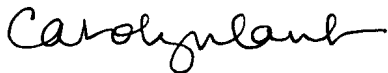
Judy Appel, Executive Director  
Our Family Coalition



Don Romesburg, Member  
Committee on LGBT History



Rick Zbur, Executive Director  
Equality California



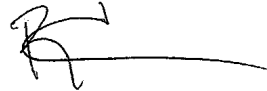
Carolyn Laub, Consultant to LGBT  
Advocacy Organizations



Kris Hayashi, Executive Director  
Transgender Law Center



Geoffrey Winder and Ginna Brelsford,  
Co-Executive Directors  
GSA Network



Becca Cramer, Legislative Coordinator  
ACLU of California



Joey Hernández, Education Policy and  
Programs Manager  
Los Angeles LGBT Center

Cc: Tom Adams, Deputy Superintendent, California Department of Education

Dr. Michael Kirst, President, State Board of Education

Karen Stapf Walters, Executive Director, State Board of Education